



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Georgia is blessed with outstanding resources and abundant opportunities to enjoy the natural splendors of the great outdoors. In June 2018, Georgians will once again "escape the indoors" by celebrating nature and the worthy initiatives that foster and encourage an interest in health awareness and fitness; and
- WHEREAS: The economic impact of outdoor recreation continues to grow across the nation, now exceeding \$650 billion in annual expenditures. Here in Georgia, outdoor recreation is estimated to support some 238,000 jobs, generating a total annual economic impact of approximately \$27.3 billion; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's 61 state parks, 11 national park units, and other facilities attract millions of visitors each year and reflect our state's rich natural and cultural history; and
- WHEREAS: It is essential to protect and preserve our natural environment and outdoor recreational resources, including air, water, wildlife, and lands. Outdoor recreation promotes fitness and livability in all Georgia communities and enhances our economic vitality through the social, environmental, and economic benefits of outdoor recreation; and
- WHEREAS: During Great Outdoors Month, Georgia joins in recognizing the partnership of state, federal, and local agencies in working with recreation and tourism industries to make outdoor recreation options available; and
- WHEREAS: The mission of Great Outdoors Month focuses on the link between outdoor recreation and improved health for people of all ages and abilities. During June, Georgia also celebrates National Trails Day, National Boating and Fishing Week, National Family Recreation Week, National Marina Day, and National Clean Beaches Week; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH in Georgia and encourage Georgia citizens and visitors to explore, enjoy, and help to preserve Georgia's great outdoors.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22nd day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF